#### RIEMANN-HILBERT PROBLEM ASSOCIATED WITH ANGELESCO SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT: Angelesco systems of measures with Jacobi type weights are considered. For such systems, strong asymptotic development expressions for sequences of associated Hermite-Padé approximants are found. In the procedure, an approach from Riemann-Hilbert Problem plays a fundamental role.

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## 1. The statement of the Riemann-Hilbert problem

Let  $\Delta_j = [c_{1,j}, c_{2,j}] \subset \mathbb{R}$ , j = 1, 2, be two intervals which are symmetric with respect to the origin. This means that  $c_{1,1} = -c_{2,2}$  and  $c_{1,2} = -c_{2,1}$ . For each j = 1, 2, we take a holomorphic function  $h_j$ , on a neighborhood  $\mathcal{V}_{h_j}$  of  $\Delta_j$ , i.e.  $h_j \in H(\mathcal{V}_{h_j})$ . Let us define the system of measures  $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$  where  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  have the differential form

$$d\sigma_j(x) = \frac{h_j(x)dx}{\sqrt{(x - c_{1,j})(c_{2,j} - x)}}, \quad x \in \Delta_j, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

This system  $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$  belongs to the class of Angelesco systems introduced by Angelesco in [1]. Fix a multi-index  $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2)$ , we say that a polynomial  $Q_{\mathbf{n}} \neq 0$  is a type II multiple-orthogonal polynomial corresponding to a system  $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ , if deg  $Q_{\mathbf{n}} \leq |\mathbf{n}| = n_1 + n_2$  and  $Q_{\mathbf{n}}$  satisfies the following orthogonality conditions

$$\int_{\Delta_j} x^{\nu} Q_{\mathbf{n}}(x) d\sigma_j(x) = 0, \quad \nu = 0, \dots, n_j - 1, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

It is well known that for any multi-index  $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2)$ , the polynomial  $Q_n$  has exactly  $n_1 + n_2$  simple zeros lying in  $\overset{\circ}{\Delta}_1 \cup \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_2$ , where  $\overset{\circ}{\Delta}_j$  denotes the interior set of  $\Delta_j$ , j = 1, 2. Our propose in the present article consists in obtaining results about the strong asymptotic development of sequences of multi-orthogonal

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polynomials  $\{Q_n : n \in \mathbb{Z}^2\}$ . An effective method for such study with this kind of "very well" measures, is analyzing of the Riemann-Hilbert problem for multi-orthogonal polynomials, which was introduced in [5]. Let us consider a  $3 \times 3$  square matrix, Y, whose entries are complex functions  $Y_{s,k} : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ , s, k = 1, 2, 3. Given a point  $x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_1 \cup \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_2$ , the following matricial limits, where  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2)$  tending to x, represent the formal pontual limits of all entries of Y at the same time:

$$\lim_{z \to x} Y(z) = Y_{+}(x), \quad \Im m(z) > 0$$
  
$$\lim_{z \to x} Y(z) = Y_{-}(x), \quad \Im m(z) < 0.$$

Let  $\delta_{s,k}$  denote the Kroneker delta function. Let us look for a matrix function Y which satisfies the following conditions:

- (1) The entries of Y,  $Y_{s,k}$ , belongs to  $H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2))$ , which we write as  $Y \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2))$ ;
- (2) For each  $\Delta_j$ , j = 1, 2, the so called jump condition takes place

$$Y_{+}(x) = Y_{-}(x) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{2\pi i \delta_{1,j} h_{1}(x) dx}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,1})(c_{2,1}-x)}} & \frac{2\pi i \delta_{2,j} h_{2}(x) dx}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,2})(c_{2,2}-x)}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x \in \stackrel{\circ}{\Delta}_{j};$$

(3) Given a multi-index  $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2)$ , we require the following asymptotic condition at infinity,

$$Y(z) \begin{pmatrix} z^{-|\boldsymbol{n}|} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & z^{n_1} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & z^{n_2} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z) \quad \text{as} \quad z \to \infty,$$

where  $\mathbb{I}$  is the identity matrix with rank 3;

(4) For each i, j = 1, 2, we set the following behavior around the endpoints  $c_{i,j}$ ,

$$Y(z) = \mathcal{O} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \delta_{2,j} + \frac{\delta_{1,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} & \delta_{1,j} + \frac{\delta_{2,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} \\ 1 & \delta_{2,j} + \frac{\delta_{1,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} & \delta_{1,j} + \frac{\delta_{2,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} \\ 1 & \delta_{2,j} + \frac{\delta_{1,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} & \delta_{1,j} + \frac{\delta_{2,j}}{\sqrt{|z-c_{i,j}|}} \end{pmatrix}$$

This problem, which consists in finding the matrix function Y, was called in [5] a Riemann-Hilbert problem for type II multiple orthogonal polynomials, and

for the system of measures  $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ , RHP in short. The solution Y is unique and has the form

$$Y(z) = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{\mathbf{n}}(z) & -\int_{\Delta_{1}} Q_{\mathbf{n}}(x) \frac{d\sigma_{1}(x)}{z-x} & -\int_{\Delta_{2}} Q_{\mathbf{n}} \frac{d\sigma_{2}(x)}{z-x} \\ d_{1}Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{1}}(z) & -\int_{\Delta_{1}} Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{1}}(x) \frac{d\sigma_{1}(x)}{z-x} & -\int_{\Delta_{2}} Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{1}} \frac{d\sigma_{2}(x)}{z-x} \\ d_{2}Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{2}}(z) & -\int_{\Delta_{1}} Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{2}}(x) \frac{d\sigma_{1}(x)}{z-x} & -\int_{\Delta_{2}} Q_{\mathbf{n}_{-}^{2}} \frac{d\sigma_{2}(x)}{z-x} \end{pmatrix}$$
(1)

with  $d_i^{-1} = -\int_{\Delta_i} x^{n_i - 1} Q_{\boldsymbol{n}_-^i}(x) d\sigma_i(x)$ , i = 1, 2, and if  $\boldsymbol{n} = (n_1, n_2)$ ,  $\boldsymbol{n}_-^1 = (n_1 - 1, n_2)$  and  $\boldsymbol{n}_-^2 = (n_1, n_2 - 1)$ .

The key of our procedure is based in finding the relationship between Y and a matrix function R which is the solution of another RHP with the following formulation. Suppose that  $\gamma$  is a closed simple and smooth contour on the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , then find a matrix function, R, such that:

- (1)  $R : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}^{3 \times 3}$  belongs to  $H(\mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma)$ ; (2)  $R_{+}(\xi) = R_{-}(\xi)V_{\boldsymbol{n}}(\xi), \ \xi \in \gamma$ ;
- (3)  $R(z) \to \mathbb{I}$  as  $z \to \infty$ ,

where  $V_n$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix function, which is called the jump matrix.

Given an arbitrary  $3 \times 3$  matrix function  $K = [K_{s,k}]_{s,k}$ , s, k = 1, 2, 3, defined on a open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  let us denote by ||K|| (respectively,  $||K||_{\Omega}$ ) the matrix infinity norm which consists in the maximum sum of row's entries modulus, defined for  $3 \times 3$  matrices, i.e.

$$||K|| = \max_{s=1,2,3} \sum_{k=1}^{3} |K_{s,k}|, \text{ (respectively, } ||K||_{\Omega} = \sup_{\Omega} ||K||)$$

**Theorem 1** (See Theorem 3.1 in [7]). Suppose that  $\Omega$  is an open set containing  $\gamma$ . In condition (2) of the RHP for R, let us require for  $V_n \in H(\Omega)$ that there exist constants C and  $\delta_n > 0$  for which

$$\|V_{\boldsymbol{n}} - \mathbb{I}\|_{\Omega} < \delta_{\boldsymbol{n}}.$$

Then, any solution of the RHP for R satisfies that

$$||R(z) - \mathbb{I}|| < C ||V_{\mathbf{n}} - \mathbb{I}||_{\Omega} \quad for \ every \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \gamma.$$

Notice that if we know the relationship between R and Y and if we can also describe the development of R when  $|\mathbf{n}| \to \infty$ , we would have a description for the development of all entries of Y when  $|\mathbf{n}| \to \infty$ , particularly for  $Y_{1,1}(z) = Q_{\mathbf{n}}(z)$ .

The RHP for Y is not normalized in the sense that the conditions (3) at infinity for Y and R are different. In order to normalize the RHP, we are going to modify Y in such a way that we set another RHP with the same contours (possibly different jump conditions), for which the solution tends to the identity matrix as  $z \to \infty$ . For normalizing we need to take into account the behavior of Y(z) for large z. This behavior depends on the distribution of the zeros of the multiple-orthogonal polynomials. The zero distribution of the orthogonal polynomials is usually given by an extremal problem in logarithmic potential theory. In section 2 we introduce some concepts and results which we will need about this theory and we will normalized the Riemann-Hilbert problem at infinity. In section 3 such a Riemann-Hilbert problem with oscillatory and exponentially decreasing jumps can be analyzed by using the steepest descent method introduced by Deift and Zhou (see [3, 4]).

# 2. The equilibrium problem and the normalization at infinity

Let us fix  $j \in \{1, 2\}$ .  $\mathcal{M}_{1/2}(\Delta_j)$  denotes the set of all finite Borel measures whose supports, i.e. supp (·), are contained in  $\Delta_j$  with total variation 1/2. Take  $\mu_j \in \mathcal{M}_{1/2}(\Delta_j)$  and define its logarithmic potential as follows

$$V^{\mu_j}(z) = \int \log \frac{1}{|z-x|} d\mu_j(x), \qquad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

For each pair of measures  $(\mu_1, \mu_2)$ , where  $\mu_j \in \mathcal{M}_{1/2}(\Delta_j)$ , j = 1, 2, we define the quantities

$$m_j(\mu_1,\mu_2) = \min_{x \in \Delta_j} \left( 2V^{\mu_j}(x) + V^{\mu_k}(x) \right), \quad j,k = 1,2, \quad j \neq k.$$

The following Proposition is deduced immediately from the results of [6].

**Proposition 1.** There exists a unique pair  $(\bar{\mu}_1, \bar{\mu}_2) \in \mathcal{M}_{1/2}(\Delta_1) \times \mathcal{M}_{1/2}(\Delta_2)$ , which satisfies for j, k = 1, 2

$$2V^{\bar{\mu}_j}(x) + V^{\bar{\mu}_k}(x) = m_j(\bar{\mu}_1, \bar{\mu}_2) = m_j, \quad x \in \text{supp}(\bar{\mu}_j) = \Delta_j, \quad j \neq k.$$

For each j = 1, 2 the measure  $\bar{\mu}_j$  has the following differential form

$$d\bar{\mu}_1(x) = \frac{\rho_1(x)dx}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,1})(c_{2,1}-x)}}, \qquad d\bar{\mu}_2(x) = \frac{\rho_2(x)dx}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,2})(c_{2,2}-x)}},$$

where  $\rho_j \in H(\mathcal{V}_{\rho_j})$ , with  $\mathcal{V}_{\rho_j}$  denoting an open set which contains  $\Delta_j$ .

The pair  $(\bar{\mu}_1, \bar{\mu}_2)$  is called extremal or equilibrium pair of measures with respect to  $(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)$ . Let us denote for each j = 1, 2 the analytic potentials

$$g_j(z) = \int_{\Delta_j^*} \log(z - x) d\bar{\mu}_j(x) = -V^{\bar{\mu}_j}(z) + i \int_{\Delta_j^*} \arg(z - x) d\mu_j(x) \,,$$

where  $\Delta_j^*$  is the support of the extremal measure,  $\bar{\mu}_j$ , that coincides in our case with  $\Delta_j$ , for j = 1, 2. Substituting the potential logarithmic in Proposition 1 we obtain for each j, k = 1, 2 with  $j \neq k$  that

$$-[g_{j+} + g_{j-}](x) - g_{k-}(x) = m_j, \quad x \in \Delta_j$$

Observe that

$$(g_{j+} - g_{j-})(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } c_{2,j} \le x \\ i\pi & \text{if } c_{1,j} \ge x \\ 2i\pi \int_x^{c_{2,j}} d\bar{\mu}_j(t) & \text{if } x \in \Delta_j \end{cases}$$

In what follows all the multi-indices will have the form  $\boldsymbol{n} = (n, n)$ . Let us introduce the matrices

$$G(z) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2n(g_1(z)+g_2(z))} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & e^{2ng_1(z)} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & e^{2ng_2(z)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & e^{-2nm_1} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & e^{-2nm_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$
(2)

We define the matrix function  $T = LYGL^{-1}$ , where L, G are as in (2) and Y is given by (1). Hence T is the unique solution of the RHP:

(1) 
$$T \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\overset{\circ}{\Delta}_1 \cup \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_2));$$
  
(2)  $T_+(x) = T_-(x)M(x), x \in \Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2;$   
(3)  $T(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z) \text{ as } z \to \infty;$ 

(4) T and Y have the same behavior on the endpoints of the intervals  $\Delta_j$ , for j = 1, 2,

where the jump matrix M has the form

$$M(x) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2ni\pi \int_x^{c_{2,j}} d\bar{\mu}_j(t)} & 2\delta_{j,1}\pi iw_1(x) & 2\delta_{j,2}\pi iw_2(x) \\ 0 & e^{2n\delta_{j,1}i\pi \int_x^{c_{2,1}} d\bar{\mu}_1(t)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{2n\delta_{j,2}i\pi \int_x^{c_{2,2}} d\bar{\mu}_2(t)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad x \in \stackrel{\circ}{\Delta}_j.$$

#### 3. The opening of the lens

For each j = 1, 2, let  $\phi_j$  denote the function defined by

$$\phi_j(z) = i\pi \int_z^{c_{2,j}} d\bar{\mu}_j(t) \quad \text{for} \quad z \in \mathcal{V}_j = \mathcal{V}_{\rho_j}(\Delta_j^*) \cap \mathcal{V}_{h_j}(\Delta_j) \,.$$

Notice that  $\phi_{j+}(x) = i\pi \int_x^{c_{2,j}} d\bar{\mu}_j(t)$  is purely imaginary and its derivative

$$\phi'_{j+}(x) = -i\pi \frac{\rho_j(x)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,j})(c_{2,j}-x)}}$$

where  $-\pi \rho_j(x)/\sqrt{(x-c_{1,j})(c_{2,j}-x)} < 0$ ,  $x \in \Delta_j$ . Rewrite  $\phi_j(z) = U_j(z) + iV_j(z) \in H(\mathcal{V}_j)$ . By the Cauchy-Riemann conditions we have that the real part of  $\phi_j$ ,  $\Re e \phi_j$ , is an increasing function on any point  $z \in \mathcal{V}_j$  with  $\Im m(z) > 0$ . Since  $\Re e \phi_j$  is zero in  $\Delta_j$ , it is positive in such point. Notice  $\phi_{j+}(x) = -\phi_{j-}(x)$ ,  $x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_j$ , hence we can proceed analogously when  $\Im m(z) < 0$ .

We analyze the jump function in  $\Delta_j$ , i.e.

$$M(x) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2n\phi_{j+}(x)} & 2\pi i\delta_{j,1}w_1(x) & 2\pi i\delta_{j,2}w_2(x) \\ 0 & e^{-2\delta_{j,1}n\phi_{1-}(x)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{-2\delta_{j,2}n\phi_{2-}(x)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{j,1}e^{-2n\phi_{1-}(x)}}{2\pi iw_1(x)} & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{j,2}e^{-2n\phi_{2-}(x)}}{2\pi iw_2(x)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\times \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2\pi i\delta_{j,1}w_1(x) & 2\pi i\delta_{j,2}w_2(x) \\ -\frac{\delta_{1,j}}{2\pi iw_1(x)} & \delta_{j,2} & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{2,j}}{2\pi iw_2(x)} & 0 & \delta_{j,1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{j,1}e^{-2n\phi_{1+}(x)}}{2\pi iw_1(x)} & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{j,2}e^{-2n\phi_{2+}(x)}}{2\pi iw_2(x)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now we are going to follow an analogous procedure as in section 9 of [7]. Let us fix a  $\delta > 0$  such that the intervals  $[c_{1,j} - \delta, c_{1,j}]$  and  $[c_{2,j}, c_{2,j} + \delta]$  are subsets of  $\mathcal{V}_j$ , j = 1, 2, and for each interval let us define two curves  $\Sigma_{j+}$ ,  $\Sigma_{j-}$  in  $\mathcal{V}_j$ , which goes from  $c_{1,j}$  to  $c_{2,j}$ , where  $\Sigma_{j\pm} = [c_{1,j} - \delta, c_{1,j}] \cup \Sigma_{j\pm}^* \cup [c_{2,j}, c_{2,j} + \delta]$ , with the elements of the curves  $\Sigma_{j\pm}^*$  satisfying that if  $z \in \Sigma_{j\pm}^*$ , then  $0 < \pm \Im m(z)$ (cf. Figure 1). Set  $\Gamma_{j\pm}$  the domains that lie between  $\Sigma_{j\pm}$  and  $\Delta_j$ . Let us introduce the matrix function S, defined by

$$S(z) = T \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \mp \frac{\delta_{1,j} e^{-2n\phi_{1-}(z)}}{2\pi i w_1(z)} & 1 & 0 \\ \mp \frac{\delta_{2,j} e^{-2n\phi_{2-}(z)}}{2\pi i w_2(z)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad z \in \Gamma_{j\pm}, \text{ and } S \equiv T, \text{ outside.}$$
(3)

Hence on open intervals  $]c_{1,j}-\delta, c_{1,j}[$  and  $]c_{2,j}, c_{2,j}+\delta[$  there are two combined jumps. For the function  $w_j$  we have that

$$w_{j+}(x) = -w_{j-}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \cap \mathcal{V}(\Delta_j) \setminus \Delta_j, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta_{j,1}e^{-2n\phi_1}}{2\pi i w_{1-}} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta_{j,2}e^{-2n\phi_2}}{2\pi i w_{2-}} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta_{j,1}e^{-2n\phi_1}}{2\pi i w_{1+}} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{\delta_{j,2}e^{-2n\phi_2}}{2\pi i w_{2+}} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \left(\frac{1}{w_{1-}} + \frac{1}{w_{1+}}\right) \frac{\delta_{1,j}e^{-2n\phi_1}}{2\pi i} & 1 & 0 \\ \left(\frac{1}{w_{2-}} + \frac{1}{w_{2+}}\right) \frac{\delta_{2,j}e^{-2n\phi_1}}{2\pi i} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{I},$$

which means that S, defined by (3), is analytic function across  $]c_{1,j} - \delta, c_{1,j}[$ and  $]c_{2,j}, c_{2,j} + \delta[, j = 1, 2$ . Let  $\gamma_j, j = 1, 2$ , be closed contours with the clockwise direction, such that for each  $j = 1, 2, \gamma_j = \sum_{j=1}^* \bigcup \sum_{j=1}^*$ . We have changed the direction of the curve  $\sum_{j=1}^*$ . The function S satisfies the RHP:

(1)  $S \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus \bigcup_{j=1,2} (\Delta_j \cup \gamma_j));$ 

(2) The jump conditions for j = 1, 2 are,

$$S_{+}(x) = S_{-}(x) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2\delta_{1,j}\pi iw_{1}(x) & 2\delta_{2,j}\pi iw_{2}(x) \\ -\frac{\delta_{1,j}}{2\pi iw_{1}(x)} & \delta_{2,j} & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{2,j}}{2\pi iw_{2}(x)} & 0 & \delta_{1,j} \end{pmatrix} \text{ if } x \in \mathring{\Delta}_{j},$$

$$S_{+}(z) = S_{-}(z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\pm \delta_{1,j}e^{-2n\phi_{1}(z)}}{2\pi iw_{1}(z)} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{\pm \delta_{2,j}e^{-2n\phi_{2}(z)}}{2\pi iw_{2}(z)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ if } z \in \gamma_{j} \cap \{\pm \Im m \, z < 0\};$$

(3)  $S(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z)$  as  $z \to \infty$ ;

(4) The conditions for the endpoints are the same as for T.

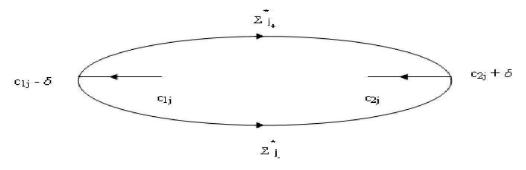


FIGURE 1. Opening of lens

Now, we consider the limiting problem, because for the matrix S the jump matrix function on each  $\gamma_j$  for j = 1, 2 tends to the identity matrix when  $|\mathbf{n}| \to \infty$ . We look for the matrix function N which satisfies the following RHP:

- (1)  $N \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2));$
- (2) The jump conditions in  $\Delta_j$  for j = 1, 2 are,

$$N_{+}(x) = N_{-}(x) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2\delta_{1,j}\pi iw_{1}(x) & 2\delta_{2,j}\pi iw_{2}(x) \\ -\frac{\delta_{1,j}}{2\pi iw_{1}(x)} & \delta_{2,j} & 0 \\ -\frac{\delta_{2,j}}{2\pi iw_{2}(x)} & 0 & \delta_{1,j} \end{pmatrix}; \quad (4)$$

(3)  $N(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z)$  as  $z \to \infty$ ;

(4) N satisfies the same conditions for the endpoints as S.

Set N = KD, where D is a diagonal matrix function and  $K = [K_{k,l}]_{k,l}$ , k, l = 1, 2, is the solution of the RHP:

(1)  $K \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2));$ 

(2) The jump conditions in  $\tilde{\Delta}_j$  for j = 1, 2 are, because of (4),

$$K_{+}(x) = K_{-}(x) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2\delta_{1,j}\pi i}{\sqrt{(c_{2,1}-x)(x-c_{1,1})}} & \frac{2\delta_{2,j}\pi i}{\sqrt{(c_{2,2}-x)(x-c_{1,2})}} \\ \frac{-\delta_{1,j}\sqrt{(c_{2,1}-x)(x-c_{1,1})}}{\frac{2\pi i}{2\pi i}} & \delta_{2,j} & 0 \\ \frac{-\delta_{2,j}\sqrt{(c_{2,2}-x)(x-c_{1,2})}}{2\pi i} & 0 & \delta_{1,j} \end{pmatrix};$$
(5)

(3)  $K(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z)$  as  $z \to \infty$ ;

(4) K and N have the same conditions for the endpoints.

Analogously to the ideas in [2], let us choose the branches of the square root which glue along the intervals  $\Delta_j$ , j = 1, 2, i.e.

$$\left(\sqrt{(x-c_{2,j})(x-c_{1,j})}\right)_{+} = -\left(\sqrt{(x-c_{2,j})(x-c_{1,j})}\right)_{-}, \ x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_{j}, \ j = 1, 2.$$

For each i = 1, 2, 3, we rewrite (5) as

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(z-c_{2,1})(z-c_{1,1})}}{2\pi}K_{i,2}(z)\right)_{\pm}(x) = (K_{i,1}(z))_{\mp}(x) \\ (K_{i,3})_{+}(x) = (K_{i,3})_{-}(x) \end{cases}, \quad x \in \mathring{\Delta}_{1}$$

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(z-c_{2,2})(z-c_{1,2})}}{2\pi}K_{i,3}(z)\right)_{\pm}(x) = (K_{i,1}(z))_{\mp}(x) \\ (K_{i,2})_{\pm}(x) = (K_{i,2})_{-}(x) \end{cases}, \quad x \in \mathring{\Delta}_{2}$$

and we denote

$$\psi_0^i(z) = K_{i,1}(z)$$
, and  $\psi_j^i(z) = \frac{\sqrt{(z - c_{2,j})(z - c_{1,j})}}{2\pi} K_{i,j+1}(z)$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ .

Then from the relations (5), we may interpret each row i = 1, 2, 3 of such matrix K as a function defined on a Riemann surface. Let  $\mathcal{R}$  define the Riemann surface which has two cuts. One of them connects the two branch points  $c_{1,1}$  and  $c_{2,1}$  with the cut in the interval  $\Delta_1 = [c_{1,1}, c_{2,1}]$ . The other cut is made in the interval  $\Delta_2 = [c_{1,2}, c_{2,2}]$ , to connect the two other branch points  $c_{1,2}$  and  $c_{2,2}$ . The sheet  $\mathcal{R}_0$  is glued to another sheet  $\mathcal{R}_1$  along the cut  $\Delta_1$ , and  $\mathcal{R}_0$  is also glued to  $\mathcal{R}_2$  along the interval  $\Delta_2$ . Let us denote by  $\psi^i$ , i = 1, 2, 3, three multi-valued function  $\psi^i = (\psi^i_0, \psi^i_1, \psi^i_2)$ , such that its components  $\psi^i_l$ , i = 1, 2, 3, l = 0, 1, 2, map the corresponding sheet  $\mathcal{R}_l$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ , and satisfy for j = 1, 2

$$\psi_{0\pm}^{i}(x) = \psi_{j\mp}^{i}(x), \quad x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_{j}, \quad \psi_{j}^{i}(z) = \mathcal{O}(1) \quad \text{as} \quad z \to c_{k,j}, \quad k = 1, 2; \quad (6)$$

for  $j, k = 1, 2, \psi_0^i(x) = \mathcal{O}(1)$ , as  $z \to c_{k,j}$ ; around the infinity, and j = 1, 2,

$$\psi_0^i(z) = \delta_{i,1} + \mathcal{O}(1/z) , \quad \psi_j^i(z) = z\delta_{i,j+1} + \mathcal{O}(1) \quad \text{as} \quad z \to \infty .$$

The equalities (6) are equivalent to

$$(\psi_0^i \psi_j^i)_+(x) = (\psi_0^i \psi_j^i)_-(x), \quad x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_j, \quad j = 1, 2$$

From Liouville's theorem, it is easy to see that  $(\psi_0^i \psi_1^i \psi_2^i)(z) \equiv 1, z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . This implies that  $\psi_l^i, l = 0, 1, 2, i = 1, 2, 3$ , do not become zero. Hence

$$(\psi_0^i \psi_k^i)(z) = \frac{1}{\psi_l^i(z)} \in H\left(\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \Delta_l\right), \quad l, k = 1, 2, \quad l \neq k, \quad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

We obtain that for each l = 1, 2, that is  $x \in \Delta_l$ ,

$$\psi_{0+}^{i}(x)\psi_{k}^{i}(x) = \frac{1}{\psi_{l+}^{i}(z)}$$
 or equivalently  $(\psi_{l+}^{i}\psi_{l-}^{i})(x) = \frac{1}{\psi_{k}^{i}(x)}.$ 

That yields to the problems for  $\psi_l^i$ , l = 1, 2:

•  $\psi_l^i \in H(\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \Delta_l);$ 

• 
$$(\psi_{l+}^i\psi_{l-}^i)(x) = 1/\psi_k^i(x), \quad x \in \check{\Delta}_l;$$
  
•  $\psi_l^i(z) = z\delta_{i,l+1} + \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ as } z \to \infty;$   
•  $\psi_l^i(z) = \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ as } z \to c_{k,l}, \ k = 1, 2.$ 

This problem is equivalent to the system of integral equations:

$$\psi_0^i(z) = \frac{1}{\psi_1^i(z)\psi_2^i(z)}$$

 $\psi_l^i(z)$ 

$$= \exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{(z-c_{1,l})(z-c_{2,l})}}{2\pi} \int_{\Delta_l} \frac{\log\psi_k^i(x)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,l})(c_{2,l}-x)}} \frac{dx}{z-x} + \delta_{i,l+1}g_{\Delta_l}(z)\right),$$

for l = 1, 2, with  $z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_l$ , and  $g_{\Delta_j}$  is the analytic function which tends to  $\infty$  as  $\log z$ , and whose real part vanishes in  $\Delta_j$ , j = 1, 2

Let us find the diagonal  $3 \times 3$  matrix function D with diagonal elements  $D_0, D_1, D_2$ , such that  $N(z) \equiv K(z)D(z)$ . The conditions (5) yield that entries of D must satisfy the following conditions

$$\begin{cases} h_j(x)D_{0\pm}(x) = D_{j\mp}(x) \\ D_{k+}(x) = D_{k-}(x) \end{cases} \quad \text{when} \quad x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_j, \quad j, k = 1, 2, \quad k \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Analogously to the function  $\psi_l^i$ , we obtain the following problem for the entries of D:

i)  $(D_0D_1D_2) \equiv 1$ , which implies that for each  $l = 0, 1, 2, D_l$  does not become zero;

ii) 
$$D_l \in H(\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \Delta_l), \ l = 1, 2;$$

iii) 
$$(D_{l+}D_{l-})(x) = h_s(x)/(D_s(x)), \quad s = 1, 2, \quad s \neq l, \quad x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_l, \ l = 1, 2;$$
  
iv)  $D_l(z) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(1/z) \text{ as } z \to \infty, \ l = 1, 2,$   
v)  $D_l(z) = \mathcal{O}(1) \text{ as } z \to \infty, \ k = 1, 2, l = 1, 2;$ 

v)  $D_l(z) = \mathcal{O}(1)$  as  $z \to c_{k,l}, k = 1, 2, l = 1, 2$ .

This problem is equivalent to the following system of integral equations where l = 1, 2,

$$D_{l}(z) = \exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{(z-c_{1,l})(z-c_{2,l})}}{2\pi}\int_{\Delta_{l}}\frac{\log\left(\frac{D_{k}(x)}{h_{k}(x)}\right)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,l})(c_{2,l}-x)}}\frac{dx}{z-x}\right)$$
$$D_{0}(z) = \frac{1}{D_{1}(z)D_{2}(z)} \quad \text{with} \quad z \in \overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \overset{\circ}{\Delta_{l}}.$$

Let us take the three multi-valued function  $(D_0(z), D_1(z), D_2(z))$ . Notice that for each l = 0, 1, 2, the function  $D_l$  is another function which maps the sheet  $\mathcal{R}_l$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ . In our case the components of functions  $(D_0(z), D_1(z), D_2(z))$ satisfy the conditions iv) and v) required for  $D_l$ , l = 0, 1, 2. Finally the matrix function N has the form

$$N(z) = \begin{pmatrix} (D_0\psi_0^1)(z) & \frac{(D_1\psi_1^1)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,1})(c_{2,1}-x)}} & \frac{(D_2\psi_2^1)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,2})(c_{2,2}-x)}}\\ (D_0\psi_0^2)(z) & \frac{(D_1\psi_1^2)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,1})(c_{2,1}-x)}} & \frac{(D_2\psi_2^2)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,2})(c_{2,2}-x)}}\\ (D_0\psi_0^3)(z) & \frac{(D_1\psi_1^3)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,1})(c_{2,1}-x)}} & \frac{(D_2\psi_2^3)(z)}{\sqrt{(x-c_{1,2})(c_{2,2}-x)}} \end{pmatrix}.$$
(7)

We define  $R(z) = S(z)N^{-1}(z)$ . Since S and N have the same jump across  $\Delta_j$ , j = 1, 2, hence  $R_+(x) = R_-(x)$  for  $x \in \overset{\circ}{\Delta}_j$ , j = 1, 2. From the definition of R, and the endpoint conditions for N, we can also deduce that  $c_{i,k}$ , i, k = 1, 2, are a removable singularity. Hence R is an analytic function across the full intervals  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$ , and it has jumps on the curve  $\gamma$ . Then we have the following RHP for R:

- (1)  $R \in H(\mathbb{C} \setminus (\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2));$
- (2) The jump conditions are for j = 1, 2

$$R_{+}(z) = R_{-}(z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \pm \frac{\delta_{j,1}e^{-2n_{1}\phi_{1}(z)}}{2\pi i w_{1}(z)} & 1 & 0 \\ \pm \frac{\delta_{j,2}e^{-2n_{2}\phi_{2}(z)}}{2\pi i w_{2}(z)} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{if} \quad z \in \gamma_{j} \cap \{\pm \Im m \, z < 0\};$$

$$(3) R(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(1/z).$$

Observe that matrix function R satisfies the hypothesis of the Theorem 1. Then uniformly for  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2)$ , we have that  $R(z) = \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}(e^{c|\boldsymbol{n}|})$ , with c > 0 and

$$\begin{split} Y(z) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{|\boldsymbol{n}|m_1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{|\boldsymbol{n}|m_2} \end{pmatrix} \left( \mathbb{I} + \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-c|\boldsymbol{n}|}\right) \right) \\ & \times N(z) \begin{pmatrix} e^{|\boldsymbol{n}|(g_1+g_2)}(z) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-|\boldsymbol{n}|(m_1+g_1(z))} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{-|\boldsymbol{n}|(m_2+g_2)(z)} \end{pmatrix} \,, \end{split}$$

where N is given by (7).

Finally, we state the main result of this paper.

#### Theorem 2.

$$Y_{1,1}(z) = Q_{\mathbf{n}}(z) = D_0(z)\psi_0^1(z)e^{|\mathbf{n}|(g_1+g_2)(z)} \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-c|\mathbf{n}|}\right)\right) ,$$

as  $|\boldsymbol{n}| \to \infty$ .

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